



RESOLUTION

URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO WORK WITH LOCAL NON-PROFITS TO ESTABLISH A WORK PROGRAM FOR THE HOMELESS.

WHEREAS, homelessness is one of the most difficult problems facing our island community; and

WHEREAS, the Statewide Homeless Point-in-Time Count in 2016 estimated that there was a total of 4,940 homeless individuals living on Oahu; and

WHEREAS, for many homeless individuals and families, providing the opportunity to work and earn a living wage, and to better not only themselves, but their community, may make a significant impact in their life situations and the community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, the Mayor of Albuquerque, New Mexico, worked with a local non-profit organization to launch its "There's a Better Way" program ("Program") to give panhandlers and homeless individuals a chance at changing their lives for the better; and

WHEREAS, as part of the Program, a "There's a Better Way" van circulates throughout the city to transport willing individuals to a job site under the supervision of the City of Albuquerque, to do such work as landscape beautification in designated areas; and

WHEREAS, at the end of the workday, individuals are paid more than the city's minimum wage and are dropped off at the non-profit's homeless shelter; and

WHEREAS, homeless outreach staff from the non-profit organization are present at the job sites and at the shelter to help individuals attain permanent employment and housing, provide behavioral health services, and address many of their other needs; and

WHEREAS, to date, as a result of the Program:

1. Over 6,700 people have been connected to services they may not have known about previously;
2. 426 day jobs have been offered through the Program. Of those workers several accepted other forms of assistance:



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- A. 20 people were connected to more permanent employment;
 - B. 59 people have been connected with mental health resources;
 - C. 5 people have been placed in housing; and
3. 92 city blocks have been cleaned, with over 41,000 pounds of trash and debris cleared; and

WHEREAS, recent media reports have indicated that Seattle, Washington has also implemented a similar program using Albuquerque as a model; and

WHEREAS, establishing a program in Honolulu comparable to the Program in Albuquerque would be similarly beneficial and invaluable for both Honolulu and its homeless population; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it urges the City Administration to work with local non-profits to establish a program similar to that in Albuquerque, New Mexico, that would provide working opportunities for Honolulu's homeless population, without taking work that has been historically performed by City employees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council also urges the City Administration to work with the State and other appropriate private entities to incorporate existing services as part of the new program; and



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BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawaii, President of the Hawaii State Senate, the Speaker of the Hawaii House of Representatives, the Director of the State of Hawaii Department of Health, the Director of the State of Hawaii Department of Human Services, Mayor, the Managing Director, and the Director of Community Services.

INTRODUCED BY:

Brandon Elefante

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

August 8, 2016
Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII
CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION 16-200, CD1

Introduced: 08/08/16 By: BRANDON ELEFANTE

Committee: PARKS, COMMUNITY
AND CUSTOMER
SERVICES


Title: RESOLUTION URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO WORK WITH LOCAL NON-PROFITS TO ESTABLISH
A WORK PROGRAM FOR THE HOMELESS.

Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

08/23/16	PARKS, COMMUNITY AND CUSTOMER SERVICES	CR-248 - RESOLUTION REPORTED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION AS AMENDED IN CD1 FORM.
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09/07/16	COUNCIL	CR-248 AND RESOLUTION 16-200, CD1 WERE ADOPTED. 9 AYES: ANDERSON, ELEFANTE, FUKUNAGA, KOBAYASHI, MANAHAN, MARTIN, MENOR, OZAWA, PINE.
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I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.



GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK



ERNEST Y. MARTIN, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER